TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1191

March 27, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires Roane County owners of Class I wildlife or owners of private sanctuaries or rescue facilities where Class I wildlife are kept to attach or permanently implant a global positioning satellite (GPS) tracking device to their animals. All costs to affix or implant GPS devices shall be paid for by the wildlife owners. Owners shall also purchase and maintain GPS receivers for themselves and for the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency (TWRA) or other appropriate local government entity. Requires the TWRA to enforce this requirement and to keep records of tracked animals until their death or permanent removal from the county. The TWRA shall give these records to appropriate local government entities. These provisions will not apply to events that are exempted by the TWRA executive director, county animal control facilities used for the temporary holding of animals, institutions operated for the purpose of displaying wildlife to the public, and educational venues open to the public. Violations will be a Class C misdemeanor. Tracking devices shall be affixed or implanted by December 1, 2011.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- Currently TWRA officers inspect private owners of Class I wildlife. The affixing or implanting of GPS devices will become a part of the inspection process.
- Any increase in state expenditures to keep GPS tracking records and send them to appropriate local government entities will be not significant and will not require additional staff or a reduction in other budget items.
- No increase in state or local expenditures to affix or implant GPS devices.
- There will not be a sufficient number of prosecutions for state or local government to experience any significant increase in revenue or expenditures.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

James W. White, Executive Director

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